

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 18345 161541Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 161507Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4765

S E C R E T ROME 18345

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, IT
SUBJECT: DE MARTINO VISIT

REF: STATE 291789

MFA SYG MANZINI, IN COVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ON DEC 15, SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY SEEN DE MARTINO, WHO SEEMED QUITE PLEASED ABOUT HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO US. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED, IN GENERAL TERMS, PROGRAM FOR DE MARTINO VISIT. MANZINI COMMENTED THAT HE HOPED WE WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE VISIT SUBSTANTIVE AND WORTHWHILE BECAUSE SOCIALISTS MUST BE BROUGHT AROUND TO RENEWED COOPERATION WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. MANZINI VOLUNTEERED THAT HE IS ARRANGING TO SEND AMBASSADOR ALDO CONTE MAROTTA (CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TRIPOLI) TO US AT TIME OF DE MARTINO VISIT. HE DESCRIBED MAROTTA AS BEING VERY FLUENT IN ENGLISH AND A "GOOD SOLID" MAN WHO COULD ACCOMPANY AND "HELP STEER" DE MARTINO DURING HIS VISIT TO US.

COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF MAROTTA BEING INVOLVED IN DE MARTINO VISIT. AS EXPLAINED BY MANZINI, IT SOUNDED LIKE HIS INITIATIVE; HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE INITIATIVE CAME FROM, OR WAS WELCOMED BY, DE MARTINO. WE WILL ATTEMPT DISCREETLY TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS AND ON THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, BETWEEN DE MARTINO AND MAROTTA. ON THE LATTER POINT WE NOTE THAT MAROTTA IS FROM NAPLES AND STUDIED LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAPLES WHERE DE MARTINO IS PROFESSOR OF LAW. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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